



The Messenger

March 27, 2024
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A weekly publication of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church

Once Upon A Time...

Don't you just love those four words? As soon as I read them my heart skips a beat in anticipation. "What will come next" my mind wonders. Surely there will be a prince, a regal celebration, laughter, tears, and



an evil force bent on bringing danger, ruin or disaster to the plot. We all know how a story that begins with "Once upon a time..." ends. Almost every story that begins with "Once upon a time..." ends with "...and they all lived happily ever after." So, if we know the beginning and we know the end, do we need the middle? Well of course we do! It is the action in the middle that causes us to appreciate those familiar words at the beginning and end.

This strikes me every year when Holy Week comes around. It is so easy to fall into the habit of attending church on Palm Sunday singing "Hosanna" and waving greenery and then to return the following Sunday to greet the risen Christ with choruses of "Alleluja." But in doing so, we miss the heart of the story and the beginning and ending become familiar, happy, sweet words with diminished meaning. My joy on Easter Sunday is always, always exponentially multiplied by participating in the Holy Week services that remember the Last Supper and Good Friday. These two experiences set the mood for full celebration and appreciation of Easter morning.

I want to invite you to read the whole story together, as a church family, this year. Ash Wednesday was our "Once upon a time..." Palm Sunday brought us a parade and celebration suitable for the Prince of Peace. On Maundy Thursday we will pause to remember the last evening that Jesus spent gathered with his friends through self-guided, Stations of the Cross in the Fellowship Hall between 5:30-7pm. You can drop in at any point during that timeframe or Friday between 12-3pm. Good Friday Service is at 6pm in the Sanctuary. We will retell the story of Jesus's last days and hours through scripture and song.

cont. on pg. 2

Once Upon a Time cont.

It will provide a time for solemn reflection of the selfless sacrifice made for each of us. And then. THEN! On Easter morning when, together, we have reached "...and they all lived happily ever after..." I am guessing that we all will never again want to read the beginning and end of this story without the action in the middle. Please join us at 7:15am for a sunrise service on Rowe Plaza or at 9 or 11 when we celebrate our risen Lord. The children will provide a musical piece at both 9 and 11 and the chancel choir will be leading us in song at 11am.

During our journey through this week, we are bound to experience laughter, tears, joy and heartache. But the best stories on my bookshelves, the ones I reach for time and again, are the ones that have touched my heart and stretched my mind. This year may the story of Holy Week bring all this and more to you.

HOLY WEEK AT LAUREL HEIGHTS

227 W Woodlawn Ave



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28th

Stations of the Cross

5:30pm-7:00 pm - *Fellowship Hall*

Good Friday

Friday, March 29th

Stations of the Cross - 12:00pm-3:00pm

Tenebrae Service - 6:00 pm - *Sanctuary*

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31st, 2024

7:15am Sunrise Service - *Rowe Plaza*

9:00am Worship - *Sanctuary*

11:00am Worship - *Sanctuary*

Scripture Reading - Mark 16:1-8

Sermon - Looking for Jesus in All the Wrong Places

The 11 am service is live-streamed at:

www.facebook.com/LaurelHeightsUMC

<https://www.laurelheights.org/online-worship/>

Blessed are...

Afflicted Minds, Sunday April 7

Broken Minds, Sunday April 14

Lost Minds, Sunday April 21

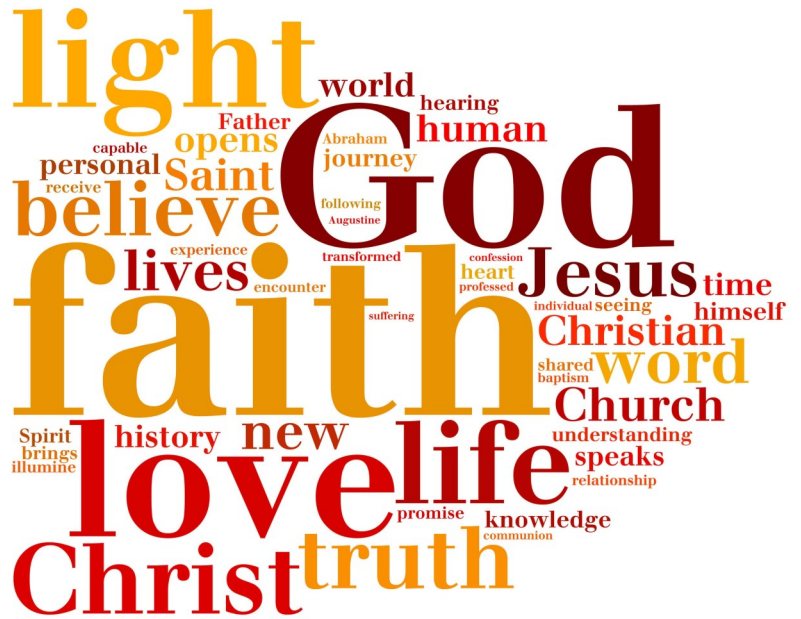
Healing Minds, Sunday April 28

**Join us at Laurel Heights UMC
for a four-week sermon series
on mental health and wellness.**

CONFIRMATION IS COMING!!

Our 2024 Confirmation class will begin on April 7th! Any student in sixth grade or above is eligible to join as we learn what it means to be a United Methodist and a member of the church here at Laurel Heights.

We will meet after worship until 2pm for six weeks, April 7-May 12. Confirmation Sunday coincides with Pentecost on May 19th.



If you have questions, are interested or know someone who might be, please call the church or email Laura Healy lhealy@mylhumc.org

Laurel Heights UMC Mission Committee

CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY (CAM)

110 MCCULLOUGH, 78215

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

SAT. APRIL 13, 2024

9:00 A.M.

Park between CAM & Grace Lutheran Church

Volunteers will gather at warehouse

For more information, please contact the church at 210-733-7156.

Sign-up to volunteer

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A49ABAC2AAA8-camsaturdays/117670810/>



Laurel Heights Young Family News

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

**SIGN YOUR CHILD UP FOR AN EVENING OF
GAMES, CRAFTS, SNACKS AND FUN!
DROP OFF IS AT 5:30 AND PICK UP IS AT 8PM**

FRIDAY, 19 APRIL

227 W. Woodlawn Ave.
Laurel Heights United Methodist Church
210-733-7156

Please bring a sack dinner.
Contact Angie Taylor for more information
ataylor@mylhumc.org

<https://form.jotform.com/ataylormailbox/lhumc-parents-night-out-registratio>

Church Calendar

Wednesday, March 27

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday

9:00 a.m. Church Mice

10:00 a.m. Super Adult Day - *Gym*

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi Class - *Room 312*

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 305*

Noon - 3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

6:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service - *Sanctuary*

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday

7:15 a.m. Sunrise Service - *Rowe Plaza*

9:00 a.m. Worship - *Sanctuary*

9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - *Fellowship Hall*

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - *Sanctuary*

Monday, April 1 - Church Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 2

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

1:00 p.m. Altar Guild Meeting - *Parlor*

Wednesday, April 3

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

5:30 p.m. Board of Trustees - *Parlor*

Thursday, April 4

9:00 a.m. Church Mice

3:00 p.m. Church Under the Bridge

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi Class - *Room 312*

Friday, April 5

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 305*

Sunday, April 7

9:00 a.m. Worship - *Sanctuary*

9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - *Fellowship Hall*

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - *Sanctuary*

12:00 p.m. VBC Informational Lunch

12:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

1:00 p.m. Lively Spirits - *Parlor*

hello
MARCH

Laurel Heights
Young Family Calendar of Events
2024

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 9 • CAM 9am to 12pm
- Lent dinners 5:30pm 6:15 to 6:40pm & Children's music time
- 24 • Palm Sunday Potluck & Egg Hunt Following 11am service
- 28 • Maundy Thursday Stations of the Cross 5:30 to 7pm
- 29 • Good Friday Service 6 pm
- 31 • Easter Sunday 7:15am, 9am & 11am



LAUREL HEIGHTS YOUTH UPDATES

District Youth & Youth Leader Gathering

Saturday, April 20th 12PM – 3PM

Lunch, worship, games/social time for students & community of support conversation for adult leaders @ Colonial Hills UMC. We'll gather at Laurel Heights at 11:30AM and take the van together. RSVP to Katie Myers (210)587-5498 or katiemyers@yahoo.com

Summer Camps

All youth (rising 6th – rising 12th grade) are encouraged to consider taking Meadow, Madelyn, and Merrick's recommendation and going to one of the two Rio Texas Youth Summer Camps. The camp in Buda is smaller in size, so it is expected to fill up faster. The conference recommends registering quickly once registration opens in early April. Early bird registration is \$275.

Laurel Heights will cover the registration cost for any of our students who wish to attend. Contact Pastor Lisa for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

SUMMER CAMPS 2024

JULY 7TH-12TH

**TWIN OAKS RANCH,
BUDA TX**

JULY 14TH-19TH

**TEXAS BAPTIST
ENCAMPMENT
PALACIOS TX**

SUPER ADULTS' TRAVEL, MISSIONS, AND MORE

Super Adults has a long history of group travel - local, state, U.S. and overseas. Travel programs are designed to visit new sites, learn new history and please the traveler with seasoned guides, including Susan and Henry Holloway.

Day Trips: Over the years Super Adults have visited State Parks, interesting cities such as Fredericksburg, Kerrville, Burton and Oatmeal; State Historical sites such as Washington on the Brazos and interesting County Courthouses; educational facilities, such as Presidential Libraries in Austin, Dallas and College Station and college campuses such as University of Texas in Austin and Texas A & M in College Station and San Antonio. We also enjoy annual wildflower tours, searching for the best floral displays each year.

Mission Opportunities - Over the years, Super Adults have helped Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM), provided Backpacks for back-to-school, School Supplies for local schools, contributed to the cost of school uniforms, diapers for the "My Healthy Child" program, hygiene items for the homeless, underwritten the cost of vaccines for those without insurance, Hurricane and Flood Relief buckets and supplies.

Other Activities of Super Adults: Monthly Book Talk, a low impact Exercise Program designed specifically for seniors and Let's Eat Out for lunch together at different local restaurants.

Super Adult Newsletter: Each month, all Super Adult members receive a newsletter by mail or email, including an inspiring note from Susan, announcements, activity calendar, Super Adult Day description, birthday recognition, trips being planned and a challenging quiz.

You are invited to share in these fun times with fellow seniors from Laurel Heights and many other churches around San Antonio. Our monthly meetings are generally the last Thursday of each month (except November & December). Games time is 10:30 and lunch is served at 11:00; this is a home-cooked lunch prepared by Susan & Mary each month for only \$8.00 per person. All of this is available to you for only \$35.00 per year. Please join today.

Super Adults is conducting a Membership Drive this year through May 31, 2024. We would like for all church members and friends to join us and become "Super" with us. See Membership Card below.

Super Adult Membership Card May 31, 2024 - May 31, 2025

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone _____ Cell _____ Birthday _____
For emergency, please notify _____
Email Address _____



SUPERADULTS ON THE 

Prayer Requests

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Healing:

Lucien Manchester

Sonny Landers

Richard Parrigan

Natasha Garza

Gracie Huron

Alice Gannon

Ann Wheeler

God's Presence:

For those affected by the COVID-19 virus and homebound members;
the incarcerated; and women and men in our military.



**Lord, in your mercy,
hear our PRAYER**

You can offer a prayer of gratitude
or concern by emailing prayers@mylhumc.org,
through [Facebook Messenger](#),
or calling the church office (210) 733-7156.

Happy Birthday

3/28

Madison Schlundt

3/29

Jackson Hedgepeth
Abigail Reed

3/31

Mike McGlone

4/1

Judy Geerdes

4/2

Larry Aguilar
Cynthia Cowles

4/3

Gemma Pearson
Oliver Pearson

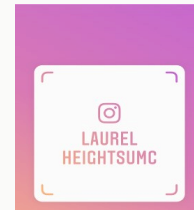
*Are we missing
your name
on the birthday list?*

*Please notify the
church office
at 210-733-7156
so we can update our
records.*

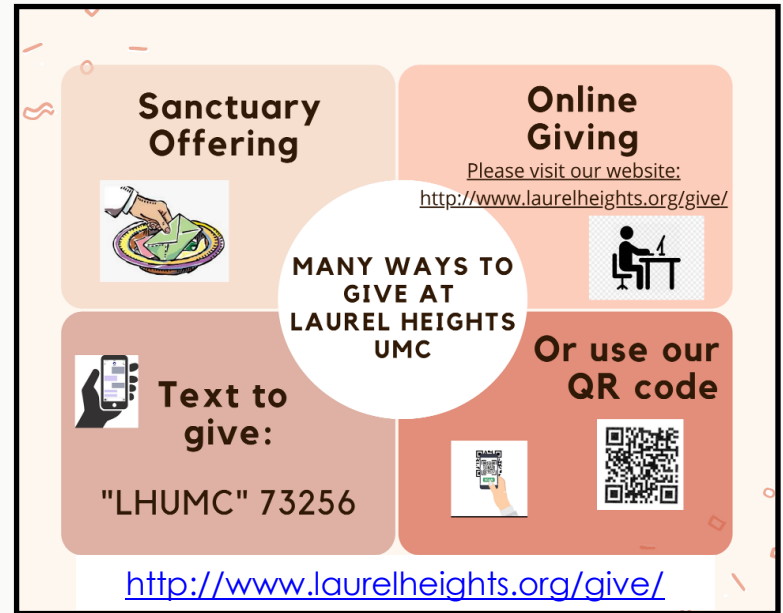
*We don't want to
miss anyone!*



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<https://www.facebook.com/LaurelHeightsUMC>



Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Laurel Heights Staff

210-733-7156

Rev. Lisa Straus, Senior Pastor

Rev. Laura Healy, Associate Pastor

Laura Marty, Music Director

Dr. Melanie Randall, Organist

Angie Taylor, Dir. of Young Family Ministries

Heather Weidenbach, Administrative Manager

Debbie Cormier, Administrative Assistant (PT)

Paloma Holub, Director of Communications

Susan Holloway, Super Adults Director

Yvonne Garcia, Wesley Nurse

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